

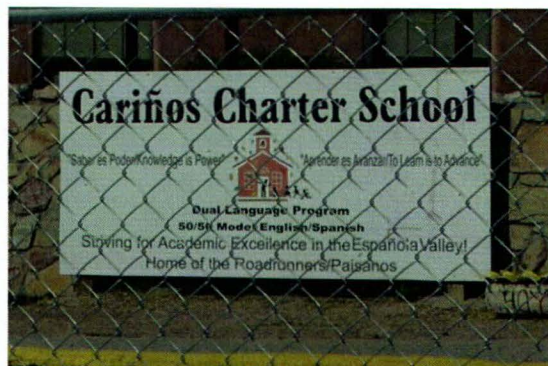


# NMPSIA

## Espanola Public Schools

*Carinos del Los Charter School*

### *Loss Control & Safety Audit*



**Poms & Associates Risk Services**  
320 Osuna Road NE, Suite C1 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87107  
[800] 898.6236 ■ fax [505] 797.1432 ■ [www.pomsassoc.com](http://www.pomsassoc.com)

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report contains the findings of an independent Loss Control & Safety Audit of Carinos del Los Charter School. The audit was conducted on March 6, 2014, on behalf of the Espanola Public Schools, and at the request of NMPSIA.

A photograph and/or an observation, location, recommendation, and/or standard citation may accompany checkmarks in the "No" column of the checklists. Detailed observations and recommendations are found on the pages following the checklists. Information was gathered from onsite physical conditions and from statements made by your organization's staff. Some items marked as "No" or "Unacceptable" may not necessarily be noncompliant with standards; these items are marked as such when ongoing maintenance recommendations are made. In addition, some conditions could not be determined or verified and their acceptability may be marked as "No" or "Unacceptable" in the report. It is your organization's responsibility to determine the acceptability of each condition and to address hazards and concerns.

The photographs are representative of concerns or issues documented during the audit process. These conditions may exist in multiple locations on the same site; therefore, the photographs should be considered representatives of these conditions and not depictions of every instance where these issues were observed. In addition, this report represents the conditions that were apparent at the time of the visit. Hazardous conditions are dynamic in nature and therefore may change, improve, or worsen after completion of the audit process.

The Loss Control & Safety Audit is based upon an overview of the hazards and loss exposures of your organization and its sites. Every part of every building and location is not normally visited. Some areas may not be accessible at the time of the audit or may inadvertently be missed. Your organization is encouraged to act upon the recommendations made in the Loss Control & Safety Audit, with or without photographs, in a timely manner wherever and whenever the conditions may be found within your organization.

Loss control is a daily responsibility of your District's management. NMPSIA's visits and related efforts made by Poms & Associates are not considered or intended by NMPSIA, to be a substitute for all or part of your District's comprehensive loss control program. Any recommendations made by NMPSIA are drawn from information provided by your organization and the conditions observed at the time of the visit. This information does not necessarily address each and every possible loss potential, code, statutory violation, or exception to good practices and procedures. The absence of a comment or recommendation does not necessarily mean that the conditions are a representation of compliance with all acceptable codes and statutes, conformation with good practices and procedures, and/or an absence of loss potential.

The Poms & Associates staff extends its thanks to Vernon Jaramillo, Principal, and the staff of Carinos del Los Charter School for their cooperation and assistance during this audit. We welcome any questions or comments. Inquiries regarding the physical locations, findings, or the referenced standards may be addressed to Poms & Associates at (800) 898-6236 or to NMPSIA at 1-800-548-3724.



**GENERAL CONDITIONS INSPECTION****Contact:** Vernon Jaramillo, Principal**Auditor:** James Dorn**Member Agency:** Espanola Public Schools**Client:** NMPSIA**Inspection Concluded:** March 6, 2014

<b>Hazard Type</b>	<b>Hazard Scope</b>	<b>Hazard Urgency</b>	<b>Capital</b>
1 – Egress Issue	A – Facilities/Planning	I – Immediate	C – Capital
2 – Injury Hazard	B – Custodial or	H – High	NC – Non-
3 – Property Loss	Maintenance	M – Medium	Capital
4 – Regulatory or	C – Policy and/or	L – Low	
Legal Issue	Procedures	O – Ongoing /	
5 – Accepted Best	D – Employee Practices	Preventative	
Practices			

<b>Exterior Areas</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
1	Are paved surfaces, such as parking lots, sidewalks, and courtyards, free of hazardous conditions or deterioration?		X		2,4 - B - M - NC	2014-001
<b>Building Conditions</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2	Does interior and exterior lighting appear to be adequate, and are lighting fixtures in good condition?		X		5 - B - L - NC 2,5 - B - L - NC	2014-002 2014-003
3	Do building structures and finish materials appear to be in good condition and free of visible deterioration?		X		3,4 - A,B - L - NC 3,4 - A,B - M - NC 3,4 - A,B - M - NC 3,4,5 - B - L - NC	2014-004 2014-005 2014-006 2014-007
4	Do doors, windows, and glass appear to be of an appropriate type and condition?		X		1,5 - B - L - NC	2014-008

5	Was the building free of apparent leaks or other obvious water intrusion?		X		3,4 - B - M - NC 3,4 - A,B - M - NC	2014-009 2014-010
6	Do walls and ceilings appear to be of an appropriate type and condition?		X		3,4,5 - B,C - M - NC 2,3,5 - B - M - NC 3,5 - B - O - NC 2,3,4,5 - B,C - M - NC	2014-011 2014-012 2014-013 2014-014
7	Are floors and floor coverings of an appropriate type and condition?		X		2,4 - A,B - M - NC 2,5 - A,B - M - NC 2,4 - A,B - M - NC	2014-015 2014-016 2014-017
<b>Assembly Areas</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
8	Are seating systems in good condition and equipped with guardrails where required?		X		4,5 - A,C - L - NC	2014-018
<b>Emergency Action Equipment &amp; Systems</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
9	Are the appropriate types of fire extinguishers properly installed, unobstructed, inspected on a monthly and annual basis, and equipped with service tags?		X		3,4 - B,C,D - M - NC 3,4 - A,C - M - NC	2014-019 2014-020
10	Are alarm systems installed and tested on a regular basis, and are pull stations and alarm panels unobstructed?		X		2,3,4,5 - B - M - NC	2014-021
<b>Mechanical and Utility Systems</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
11	Are electrical panels and utility shutoff switches and valves unobstructed, properly labeled or identified, and protected from tampering; and do visible system components appear to be in good condition?		X		2,3,5 - A,C - M - NC 3,4,5 - B,D - M - NC	2014-022 2014-023
12	Are electrical fixtures properly installed, properly protected, and free of damage?		X		2,4 - D - H - NC	2014-024
13	Are plumbing systems and fixtures in good condition and free from damage or leaking?		X		2,4 - B - M - NC 2,4 - B - M - NC	2014-025 2014-026



Housekeeping and Storage Practices		Yes	No	NA	Priority	Recommendations
14	Is the premises free of the accumulation of trash, debris, or the unsafe storage of combustibles?		X		5 - B,D - O - NC	2014-027
General Conditions – Other		Yes	No	NA	Priority	Recommendations
15	Is the site free of graffiti or other signs of vandalism?		X		3,5 - B - O - NC 2,3,5 - B,C - O - NC	2014-028 2014-029
16	Are other general conditions free of apparent hazards or concerns?		X		3,5 - A,C - M - NC 2,3,4 - B - M - NC	2014-030 2014-031

## GENERAL CONDITIONS INSPECTION RECOMMENDATIONS

### Exterior Areas

***1. Are paved surfaces, such as parking lots, sidewalks, and courtyards, free of hazardous conditions or deterioration?***

**Recommendation Number: 2014-001**

**Observations:**

- Some of the paved areas had minor deterioration that, if left unrepaired, could worsen and result in trip/fall hazards.

**Recommendations:**

- The pavement condition should be closely monitored and repairs made as needed.

**Standards:**

- NMAC 6.27.30 - Statewide Adequacy Standards





## Building Conditions

### ***2. Does interior and exterior lighting appear to be adequate, and are lighting fixtures in good condition?***

**Recommendation Number: 2014-002**

**Observations:**

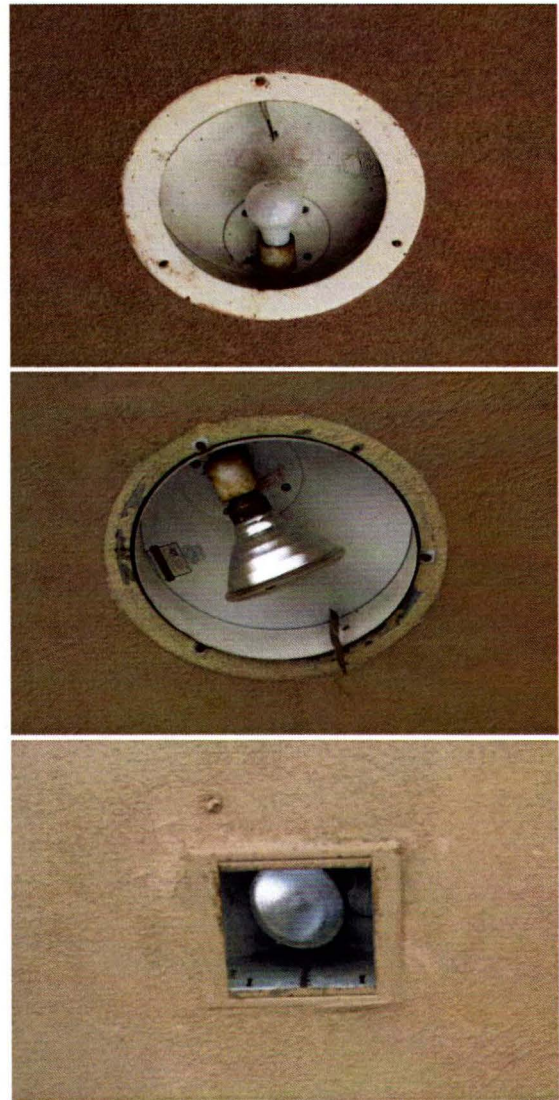
- Some of the light fixtures were missing diffusers.
- Light diffusers reduce glare, protect the light bulbs from damage, and reduce the hazards created by broken glass should bulbs break.

**Recommendations:**

- Missing light diffusers should be replaced.
- Specially designed plastic sleeves may be used in place of light diffusers for fluorescent light bulbs.

**Standards:**

- IPMC, Section 605 - Electrical Equipment



**Recommendation Number: 2014-003****Observations:**

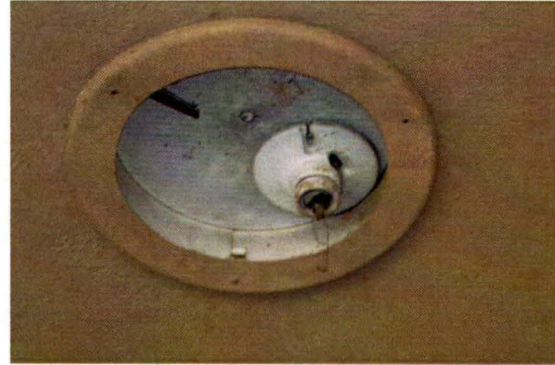
- Exposed light sockets were present where light bulbs were missing.
- The exposed light sockets increase the risks of electric shock and fire incidents.

**Recommendations:**

- Light bulbs should be placed in all open light sockets, or the circuit de-energized, locked and tagged out of service.

**Standards:**

- IPMC, Section 605 - Electrical Equipment

**3. Do building structures and finish materials appear to be in good condition and free of visible deterioration?****Recommendation Number: 2014-004****Observations:**

- The stucco exterior of one or more buildings was damaged.
- The damaged area exposes the building interior structure to the weather elements, and compromises the building's fire safety.

**Recommendations:**

- The damaged areas should be repaired.

**Standards:**

- IPMC, Section 304 - Exterior Structure





**Recommendation Number: 2014-005****Observations:**

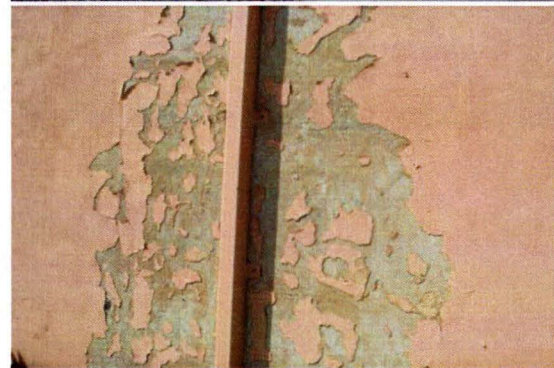
- The paint was peeling in some areas.
- The peeling paint can lead to accelerated building wear and poses an attractive nuisance.

**Recommendations:**

- The peeling and flaking paint should be removed and the surfaces repainted to prevent accelerated building wear.

**Standards:**

- IPMC, Section 304 - Exterior Structure

**Recommendation Number: 2014-006****Observations:**

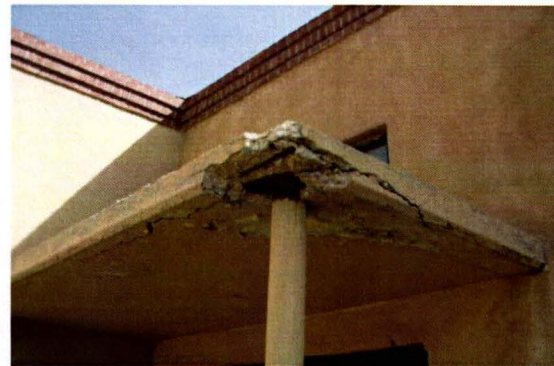
- A concrete entryway cover was deteriorating.

**Recommendations:**

- The cover should be repaired, replaced or removed as necessary.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- IPMC, Section 304 - Exterior Structure



**Recommendation Number: 2014-007****Observations:**

- One or more unguarded ventilation ports were observed.
- The missing port screen/grill permits the entry of disease carrying vermin and other small animals.

**Recommendations:**

- The missing ventilation port guards should be replaced.

**Standards:**

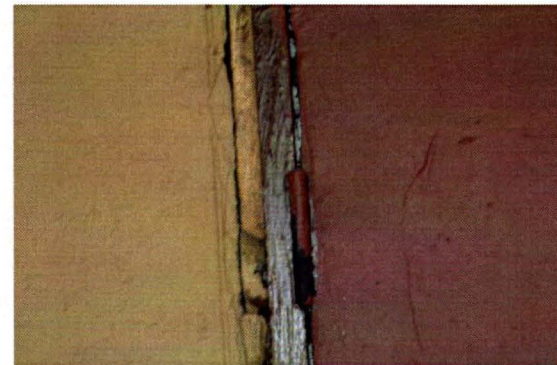
- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- IPMC, Section 308 - Extermination

**4. Do doors, windows, and glass appear to be of an appropriate type and condition?****Recommendation Number: 2014-008****Observations:**

- Door frames were damaged and/or deteriorated.

**Recommendations:**

- The damaged door frames should be repaired and/or replaced.
- Door frames should be inspected, repaired and/or replaced on a regular basis to ensure that they function properly and provide adequate security.
- Any construction alterations should be designed and supervised by a person with expertise in building code requirements.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- IPMC, Section 301 - General

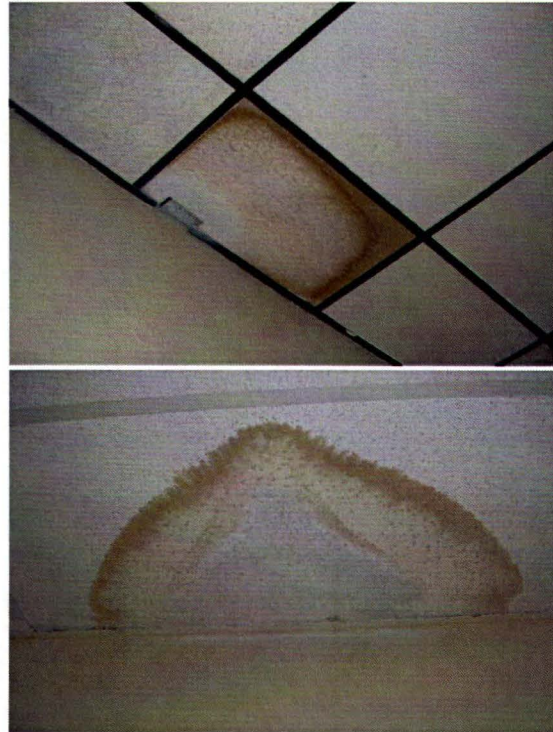


**5. Was the building free of apparent leaks or other obvious water intrusion?****Recommendation Number: 2014-009****Observations:**

- Evidence of leaks and/or other water intrusion was present.
- Water intrusion and the presence of moisture in building materials can foster the growth of mold and mildew.

**Recommendations:**

- The source of the water intrusion should be determined and corrective action taken to prevent recurrence.
- Wall coverings, ceiling tiles, floor coverings, and wall and ceiling insulation should be inspected to identify the presence of damage or mold growth. Both exposed and concealed surfaces should be inspected.
- Damaged and contaminated materials should be removed and disposed of in a way that prevents their continued use.
- The entire damaged or contaminated area should be cleaned and disinfected with an effective fungicide prior to installing new materials.

**Standards:**

- NMAC 6.27.30 - Statewide Adequacy Standards
- IPMC, Section 305 - Interior Structures

**Recommendation Number: 2014-010****Observations:**

- Evidence of a leak was observed that may be an indication of structural damage.

**Recommendations:**

- A structural or civil engineer should inspect the building to determine the extent of the damage, assess any risks related to continued use of the building and recommend corrective action.
- Corrective action should address repair of the current damage and measures necessary to reduce recurrence of this condition.

**Standards:**

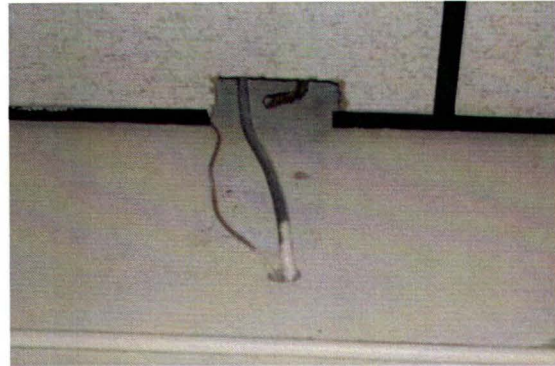
- NMAC 6.27.30 - Statewide Adequacy Standards
- IPMC, Section 304 - Exterior Structure





**6. Do walls and ceilings appear to be of an appropriate type and condition?****Recommendation Number: 2014-011****Observations:**

- Annular openings were observed in the ceilings.
- The annular openings were not fire stopped.
- The annular openings in the ceilings compromise the fire safety of the structure, and they provide an entry point for insects and vermin.

**Recommendations:**

- The annular openings in the ceilings should be properly fire stopped.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- IPMC, Section 703 - Fire-Resistance Ratings

**Recommendation Number: 2014-012****Observations:**

- Some of the baseboard molding observed was loose.
- This condition poses trip/fall hazards.

**Recommendations:**

- The loose molding should be securely fastened to the wall.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- IPMC, Section 305 - Interior Structures



**Recommendation Number: 2014-013****Observations:**

- The wall covering observed in one or more areas was damaged and/or peeling.
- The damaged areas pose an attractive nuisance and invite more damage.

**Recommendations:**

- Any damage to the walls or wall coverings should be repaired.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- IPMC, Section 305 - Interior Structures

**Recommendation Number: 2014-014****Observations:**

- Ceiling tiles were missing, and insulation material was exposed.
- These conditions could result in respiratory and skin irritations, compromise the building's fire safety, and pose an attractive nuisance.

**Recommendations:**

- The missing ceiling tiles should be replaced.

**Standards:**

- IPMC, Section 703 - Fire-Resistance Ratings





**7. Are floors and floor coverings of an appropriate type and condition?****Recommendation Number: 2014-015****Observations:**

- Some of the floor tiles were damaged.
- The damaged flooring presents slip/trip/fall hazards.
- Some of the damaged floor tiles or their adhesive may contain asbestos, which could present an asbestos exposure hazard.

**Recommendations:**

- The site Asbestos Management Plan should be reviewed to determine if the flooring contains asbestos.
- Damaged flooring that does not contain asbestos should be removed and replaced.
- Damaged flooring that contains asbestos should be abated in accordance with AHERA requirements.
- Missing and damaged floor tiles should be repaired and/or replaced to reduce trip/fall hazards.

**Standards:**

- 40 CFR, Part 763 - Asbestos
- IPMC, Section 305 - Interior Structures



**Recommendation Number: 2014-016****Observations:**

- The carpeting was frayed and unraveling in places.
- The loose threads of the unraveling carpeting pose trip/fall hazards.

**Recommendations:**

- The manufacturer of the carpeting should be contacted to determine the best methods to repair the carpeting.
- The carpeting should be repaired or replaced in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
- The manufacturer should also be asked what installation steps should be taken to avoid this condition in the future.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices

**Recommendation Number: 2014-017****Observations:**

- Some of the floor boards in the gym were water damaged.
- The damaged flooring presents slip/trip/fall hazards.

**Recommendations:**

- Missing and damaged floor boards should be repaired and/or replaced to reduce trip/fall hazards.

**Standards:**

- 40 CFR, Part 763 - Asbestos
- IPMC, Section 305 - Interior Structures





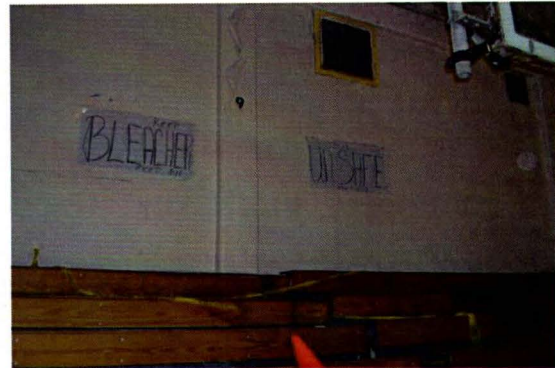
## Assembly Areas

### ***8. Are seating systems in good condition and equipped with guardrails where required?***

**Recommendation Number: 2014-018**

**Observations:**

- Signs were posting indicating safety problem with bleachers.
- Bleacher structures and grandstands present a loss exposure due to falls and/or structure failure.



**Recommendations:**

- A preventive maintenance program should be administered for telescoping and/or folding bleachers.
- The program should include a comprehensive annual inspection by a qualified person and biennial inspections by a professional engineer, registered architect, or other qualified individual certified by the bleacher manufacturer.
- Documentation of inspections and repairs should be maintained.
- The wheels, connecting components, and locking mechanisms of these tables should be thoroughly inspected on a regular basis, at minimum annually.
- The wheels should be cleaned and the connecting and locking components replaced when they begin to show signs of wear.
- The wheels and pivot points should be kept lubricated as recommended by the manufacturer to reduce the wear on the components.

**Standards:**

- NFPA 102 - Standard for Grandstands, Folding and Telescopic Seating, Tents, and Membrane Structures
- Good Loss Prevention Practices

## Emergency Action Equipment & Systems

### ***9. Are the appropriate types of fire extinguishers properly installed, unobstructed, inspected on a monthly and annual basis, and equipped with service tags?***

**Recommendation Number: 2014-019**

**Observations:**

- Monthly fire extinguisher inspections are not being conducted.

**Recommendations:**

- The fire extinguishers should be inspected on a monthly basis to ensure that:
  - they are properly wall mounted;
  - the seals and pull pins are still intact; and
  - the units are fully charged and ready for use.
- The monthly inspection should be documented with the inspector's initials on the back of the annual inspection tag.



**Standards:**

- 29 CFR 1910, Subpart L - Fire Protection

**Recommendation Number: 2014-020**

**Observations:**

- The access window of one of the fire extinguisher cabinets was observed to be missing.

**Recommendations:**

- The windows in the fire response cabinets should be replaced with breakable material.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- 29 CFR 1910, Subpart L - Fire Protection





***10. Are alarm systems installed and tested on a regular basis, and are pull stations and alarm panels unobstructed?***

**Recommendation Number: 2014-021**

**Observations:**

- Clear plastic covers are in place over some fire alarm pull stations.
- The cover at one pull station was partially removed and inoperative.

**Recommendations:**

- The cover should be reinstalled.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- IPMC, Section 704 - Fire Protection Systems



## Mechanical and Utility Systems

***11. Are electrical panels and utility shutoff switches and valves unobstructed, properly labeled or identified, and protected from tampering; and do visible system components appear to be in good condition?***

**Recommendation Number: 2014-022**

**Observations:**

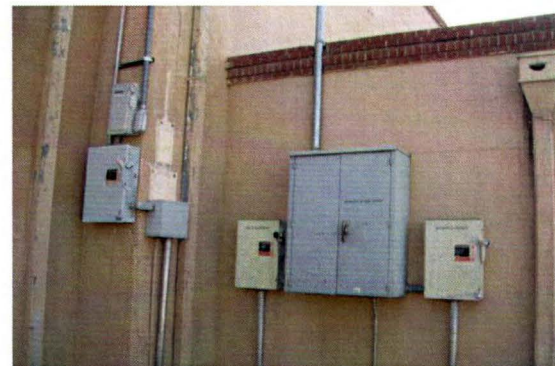
- Age of some buildings could allow easy access to roof.
- Utility location allows for easy access to the roof.

**Recommendations:**

- Identify easy roof access points and take measures to make access more difficult.
- Consideration should be given to removing or improving object, structures or landscaping to reduce/eliminate roof access by unauthorized persons.

**Standards:**

- Good Safety Practice
- Good Safety & Security Practice



**Recommendation Number: 2014-023****Observations:**

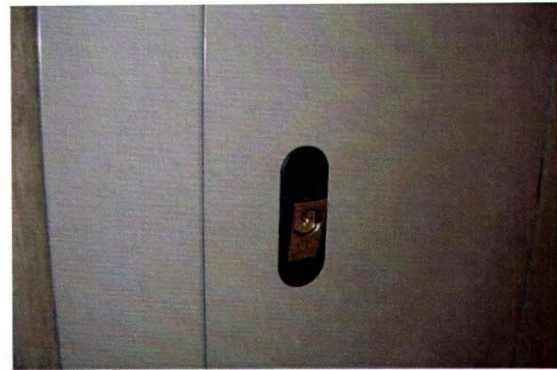
- One or more electric panelboards that were accessible to unauthorized persons were unlocked.
- This permits unauthorized access to the circuit breakers.

**Recommendations:**

- The doors of all panelboard cabinets located in public hallways and rooms should be kept locked at all times.
- This will reduce the risk of the intentional activation or deactivation of circuit breakers.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- 29 CFR 1910, Subpart S - Electrical

**12. Are electrical fixtures properly installed, properly protected, and free of damage?****Recommendation Number: 2014-024****Observations:**

- Tape was placed over an electric receptacle.
- This practice poses fire hazards.

**Recommendations:**

- The practice of taping receptacles should be discontinued.
- The situation should be investigated to determine why the receptacle is taped.
- If it is taped to prevent water or dust from entering, the receptacle should be replaced with a ground fault circuit interrupter equipped receptacle that is also equipped with a weather resistant, spring-loaded cover.
- If it is taped to prevent overloading the circuit, a qualified electrician should inspect the circuit to determine what changes should be made to repair the circuit.
- If it is taped because the circuit is damaged, then the circuit should be properly repaired by qualified personnel.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- 29 CFR 1910, Subpart S - Electrical



***13. Are plumbing systems and fixtures in good condition and free from damage or leaking?***

**Recommendation Number: 2014-025**

**Observations:**

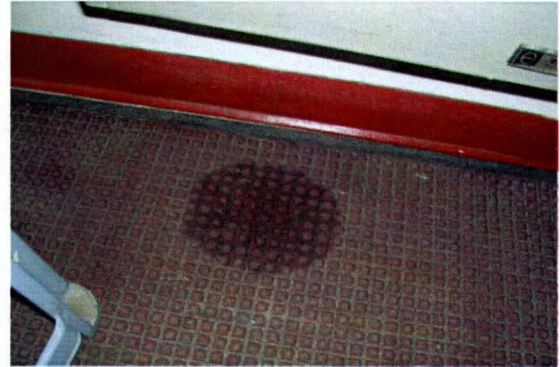
- One or more leaking water fountains were observed.

**Recommendations:**

- The leaking plumbing should be repaired.

**Standards:**

- IPMC, Section 504 - Plumbing Systems and Fixtures
- Good Loss Prevention Practices



**Recommendation Number: 2014-026**

**Observations:**

- A leaking sink was observed.

**Recommendations:**

- The leaking plumbing should be repaired.

**Standards:**

- IPMC, Section 504 - Plumbing Systems and Fixtures
- Good Loss Prevention Practices



## Housekeeping and Storage Practices

### ***14. Is the premises free of the accumulation of trash, debris, or the unsafe storage of combustibles?***

**Recommendation Number: 2014-027**

**Observations:**

- Trash and debris were strewn around some areas of the campus.

**Recommendations:**

- Frequent, at least daily, inspections of the grounds should be made to find and remove debris and trash.
- Since debris tends to attract more debris, it should be removed promptly upon discovery.



**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices

## General Conditions – Other

### ***15. Is the site free of graffiti or other signs of vandalism?***

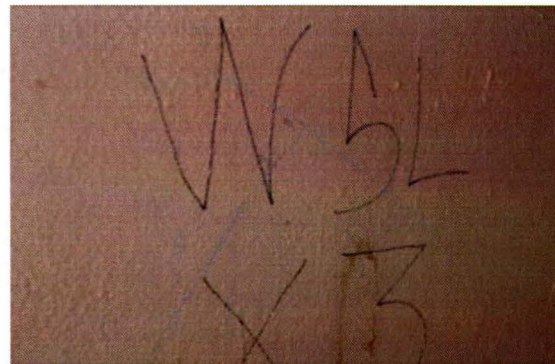
**Recommendation Number: 2014-028**

**Observations:**

- Graffiti was present in some areas. The presence of graffiti invites additional graffiti.
- Prompt response to graffiti is a proven deterrent to future graffiti.

**Recommendations:**

- Graffiti should be promptly covered or removed when discovered. Prior to removal, it should be photographed for documentation.



**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices



**Recommendation Number: 2014-029****Observations:**

- In addition to graffiti, other evidence of vandalism was observed, such as damaged windows and vents.
- The damaged property posed injury hazards, and encouraged additional acts of vandalism.

**Recommendations:**

- The damaged property should be repaired.
- Consideration should be given to reviewing the patterns of vandalism, such as the time of the year, days of the week, time of day, and areas of the property where vandalism occurs. Then a targeted prevention plan should be developed and implemented.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices

**16. Are other general conditions free of apparent hazards or concerns?****Recommendation Number: 2014-030****Observations:**

- Student lockers were present but not in use. Eliminating student lockers may reduce vandalism, contraband, and harassment incidents.

**Recommendations:**

- Consideration should be given to removing the lockers.
- If the District chooses to retain the lockers, any damaged lockers should be repaired or replaced.
- If lockers are retained and used, they should be assigned by grade level to reduce the likelihood of harassment between grade levels.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices



**Recommendation Number: 2014-031****Observations:**

- Bird nests were observed in the exterior lights, building structures, and/or exterior utility structures.
- The bird nests can pose fire, health, and property damage hazards.

**Recommendations:**

- Bird nests, bird droppings, and any other debris should be removed.
- Bird droppings should be cleaned using the appropriate personal protective equipment and disposed of as potentially infectious material.
- Holes and/or openings in which birds roost should be treated or sealed off to prevent the birds from nesting.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- IPMC, Section 302 - Exterior Property Areas



## **PLAYGROUND CONDITIONS INSPECTION DISCLAIMER**

This report was completed by James Dorn, a Certified Playground Safety Inspector. The playground conditions and features were compared with the requirements of playground safety standards published by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and ASTM International. Some recommendations are based upon insurance claim information and professional judgment.

A photograph and/or an observation, location, recommendation, and/or standard citation may accompany checkmarks in the "No" column of the inventory of structures. Detailed observations and structure-specific recommendations are found on the pages following the inventory of structures. Some items marked as "No" or "Unacceptable" in the inventory list may not necessarily be noncompliant with standards; these items are marked as such when ongoing maintenance recommendations are made. In addition, some conditions could not be determined or verified and their acceptability may be marked as "No" or "Unacceptable" in the report. It is your organization's responsibility to determine the acceptability of each condition and to address hazards and concerns.

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Loss control is a daily responsibility of your District's management. NMPSIA's visits and related efforts made by Poms & Associates are not considered or intended by NMPSIA, to be a substitute for all or part of your District's comprehensive loss control program. Any recommendations made by NMPSIA are drawn from information provided by your organization and the conditions observed at the time of the visit. This information does not necessarily address each and every possible loss potential, code, statutory violation, or exception to good practices and procedures. The absence of a comment or recommendation does not necessarily mean that the conditions are a representation of compliance with all acceptable codes and statutes, conformation with good practices and procedures, and/or an absence of loss potential.

**PLAYGROUND CONDITIONS INSPECTION****Contact:** Vernon Jaramillo, Principal**Auditor:** James Dorn**Member Agency:** Espanola Public Schools**Client:** NMPSIA**Inspection Concluded:** March 6, 2014

<b>Hazard Type</b>	<b>Hazard Scope</b>	<b>Hazard Urgency</b>	<b>Capital</b>
1 – Egress Issue	A – Facilities/Planning	I – Immediate	C – Capital
2 – Injury Hazard	B – Custodial or	H – High	NC – Non-
3 – Property Loss	Maintenance	M – Medium	Capital
4 – Regulatory or	C – Policy and/or	L – Low	
Legal Issue	Procedures	O – Ongoing /	
5 – Accepted Best	D – Employee Practices	Preventative	
Practices			

<b>Playground Conditions Inspection</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
1	Are playground areas equipped with signage that provides warnings, age appropriateness, and other relevant information?		X		4 - A - L - NC	2014-032
2	Are playground structures equipped with a shock absorbing surface of an appropriate type and depth beneath them?		X		2,4 - C,D - H - NC 2,4 - B,C - O - NC	2014-033 2014-034



## PLAYGROUND CONDITIONS INSPECTION RECOMMENDATIONS

### Playground Conditions Inspection

#### *1. Are playground areas equipped with signage that provides warnings, age appropriateness, and other relevant information?*

**Recommendation Number: 2014-032**

**Observations:**

- Signs to indicate the age appropriateness of the equipment were not present in each playground area.
- Signs recommending adult supervision were not posted.

**Recommendations:**

- Signs should be posted near each of the playground areas to indicate the age appropriateness of the equipment located in that playground area. Equipment that is inappropriate for users younger than 5 years old should be signed accordingly.
- Signs recommending adult supervision should be posted.
- Additional signage should be posted as appropriate based on the unique characteristics of each playground and/or other District policies.
- Signs or labels may be placed on the equipment itself, or freestanding signs may be used in place of a label.
- If freestanding signs are used, they should be located outside of the equipment use zone and meet the requirements of section 9.1 of ASTM 1487.

**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- CPSC, Publication 325, Public Playground Safety Handbook

**2. Are playground structures equipped with a shock absorbing surface of an appropriate type and depth beneath them?**

**Recommendation Number: 2014-033**

**Observations:**

- The protective surfacing had become displaced from the intended area onto the adjacent sidewalk.
- This condition poses numerous slip/fall hazards.

**Recommendations:**

- The protective surfacing should be swept back into the designated play area on a daily basis.



**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- CPSC, Publication 325, Public Playground Safety Handbook

**Recommendation Number: 2014-034**

**Observations:**

- The protective surfacing around and under the equipment was of an insufficient depth in some areas of the use zone and/or it did not extend throughout the entire use zone of the equipment.

**Recommendations:**

- Protective surfacing should be installed and maintained throughout the entire use zone of the equipment being protected.
- The protective surfacing should be maintained in all areas of the equipment use zone so that it provides adequate protection for the maximum height of the equipment.
- The depth of the protective surfacing should be monitored and topped off as needed to ensure that it retains a fall height value equal to or greater than the fall height of the protected equipment.



**Standards:**

- Good Loss Prevention Practices
- CPSC, Publication 325, Public Playground Safety Handbook



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